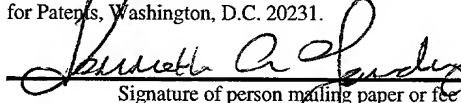


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Signature of person mailing paper or fee

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re continuation patent application of:

Neal E. Fearnot and Michael C. Hiles

Application No.: New U.S. Continuation
Application Filed Herewith

Filed: February 6, 2002

Before the Examiner

Group Art Unit

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Please enter the following Preliminary Amendment for the above-entitled patent application. Please charge any fees due or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include issue fees.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the first paragraph on page 1 of the Patent Application under the heading "REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION" to read as follows:

--The present application is a continuation of International Patent Application No. PCT/US00/21546 filed August 7, 2000 designating the United States and published in English, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent Application, Serial No.

Preliminary Amendment

Inventor: Neal E. Fearnot and Michael C. Hiles

Application No.: New U.S. Continuation Application Filed Herewith

Page 1 of 2

60/147,647, filed August 6, 1999, each of which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 39 as follows.

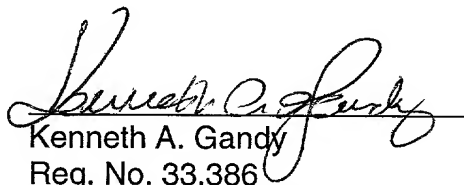
39. (Amended) The medical device of [any of claims 31-38] claim 31, wherein said biomaterial is collagenous.

REMARKS

The present Application is a continuation of International Patent Application No. PCT/US00/21546 filed August 7, 2000 and claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/147,647, filed August 6, 1999. Entry of the above amendment to reflect this parentage is requested. No new subject matter is introduced by this amendment.

Respectfully submitted:

By:



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